(c) In the case of Registered Recruiting Agents (RA), on receipt of a complaint, a show cause notice is issued and comments of concerned office of Protector of Emigrants is called for. If the RA fails to redress the grievances of overseas Indian workers, action is taken to suspend/cancel his registration and forfeit his Bank Guarantee. During 2008, action on 118 cases against Registered Recruiting Agents have been initiated for offences committed under Emigration Act.

Complaints against Unregistered/Unauthorised Agents are referred to the concerned State Police authorities for investigation and action under the law. Concerned Protector of Emigrants (POEs) also is instructed to initiate due action. During 2008, action on 93 cases against Unregistered/Unauthorised Agents have been initiated for offences committed under Emigration Act.

The Foreign Employers (FEs) who are found to be harassing the Indian Workers are placed in the Prior Approval Category. As on today, 355 FEs are placed under Prior Approval Category List.

(d) and (e) Indian Missions in Bahrain, Japan, United Kingdom, Thailand, USA, Syria, Germany, Kuwait, Netherlands, Afghanistan, Sudan, Canada, South Africa and France have informed that no such victims are languishing in jails.

The Indian Mission in Malaysia has informed that there are around 327 Indian nationals in jails and around 404 in detention camps in Malaysia on various charges including immigration offences. Indian Mission in United Arab Emirates (UAE) have indicated that presently there are 1221 Indians in various jails in UAE. This figure keeps changing on a day-to-day basis because of fresh imprisonment or deportation of those who have completed their jail term. However, they have intimated that it is not possible to know from the reports furnished by the UAE jails authority about the number of such victims languishing in jail in UAE. As informed by Indian Mission on Lebanon, seventeen Indians are languishing in jails. Indian Mission in Moscow has reported that there are two Indian nationals victims who are languishing in jails in Russia. Indian Mission in Saudi Arabia has informed that the number of Indian nationals imprisoned during 2008 was 1369 but they have no information of any victim of job-racket languishing in jail. Indian Mission in Indonesia have informed that Mission made arrangements for deportation of 14 such victims during the last one year and efforts are being made for deportation of the only victim who is still under detention. Indian missions abroad make all possible efforts to get Indian nationals released quickly by providing necessary assistance including consular access to the detainees. They try to ensure fair and human treatment in jails. Bilateral agreement/Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) signed with the foreign countries envisage Joint Committee to take care of the protection and welfare of the emigrants.

Quota for scholarship scheme for Diaspora children

1418. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has instituted the Scholarship schemes for children of NRI/ PIO;

(b) whether Government prescribed certain quota for each country with PIOs;

(c) the annual details of number of students availing such schemes and the countries from where largest number of students avail these scholarship;

(d) the disciplines in which the scholarships are offered; and

(e) whether Government proposes to increase the number of such scholarships?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. There is no country specific quota for the PIOs.

(c) Details are provided in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(d) The scholarships are offered in the field of Engineering/Architecture/Technology, Humanities/Liberal Arts, Commerce, Management (BBA/BBM), Journalism, Hotel Management, Agriculture/Animal Husbandry, Sciences, Law etc.

(e) The number of scholarships is now fixed as 100.

Statement

Year-wise details of the number of students availing of such schemes

2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
UAE-18	Kuwait -18	Oman-15
Kuwait-14	UAE-15	Saudi Arabia-12
Saudi Arabia-10	Oman-12	UAE-11
Bahrain-7	Saudi Arabia-12	Kuwait- 6
Qatar-4	Bahrain-9	Sri Lanka-5
Oman-4	Qatar-6	Qatar-4
Indonesia-1	Indonesia-1	Bahrain-3
Guyana-1	Tanzania-1	Malaysia-3
South Africa-1	Thailand-1	USA-2
		Canada-1
		France-1
		Myanmar-1
		Nigeria-1
		Tanzania-1
		Trinidad-1
TOTAL-60	TOTAL-79	TOTAL-67